GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4087
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2001
IDENTIFICATION OF PENSIONS BELOW POVERTY LINE
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of persons below poverty line varies from State to State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor indicating methods used by States/ Planning Commission to count BPL population;

(c) the fund allotted per head for population below poverty line during the last three years for their benefit; and

(d) the number of persons below poverty line benefited under public distribution scheme in each State during each of the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a) & (b) : The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below thepoverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The poverty line is defined in terms of expenditure per person per month. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee) the Government hasapplied state-specific poverty estimates in order to identify the poor i.e., persons living below the poverty line (BPL). These State-wise poverty estimateshave been worked out by the Planning Commission from the national level poverty lines, using state-specific price indices and inter- state price differentials. The national poverty lines are expressed as monthly per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. These percentage are applied to the estimated population in order to arrive at the number of persons living below the poverty line. A statement indicating the number of BPL families as per Planning Commission`s estimates and number of BPL households identified by States/UTs as per the reports received from them is given in Annexure-I.

The percentage of poor families in BPL census conducted by the States is suspected tohave an upward bias in estimation of poor families because the survey is conducted with the specific purpose of identifying families for self selection as beneficiaries in various poverty alleviation programme. Allocation of foodgrains under TPDS for BPL families is made on the basisof combined BPL estimates (for rural and urban) given by Planning Commission and not only for rural BPL population identified by States under BPL census.

(c) Funds allotted to States under various schemes of Ministry ofRural Developmentwhich are targeted generally at BPL population during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are as per Annexure-II. Funds allocated by the Ministry of Rural Development for poverty alleviation are based on the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission.

(d) A statement showing the statewise number of ration cards issued to families living below poverty line (BPL) under Public Distribution as reported by States/UTs during the last three years is at Annexure-III.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4087 FOR ANSWER IN LOK SABHA ON 23.3.2001.

STATEMENT INDICATING NO. OF BPL FAMILIES AS PER PLANNING COMMISSION`S ESTIMATES AND NO. O HOUSEHOLDS AS REPORTED BY STATES/UTS

STATE/UT	Projected population expert 2000(in lakhs)	%BPL as group 2000	No. of house- holds	No. of BPL households identified by the State Govt.(lakhs)	Reported as on (in lakhs)

Andhra Pradesh	754.66	25.58	158.21	40.63	113.26	June 2000
Arunachal Pradesh	11.92	40.86	2.42	0.99	1.2	June 2000
Assam	261.96	40.86	44.93	18.36	19.06	30.1.2001
Bihar	999.42	54.96	162.24	89.17	84.26	21.5.1997
Goa	15.95	14.92	3.20	0.48	0.07	
Gujarat	482.52	24.21	87.57	21.20	33.91	1.7.2000
Haryana	198.31	25.05	31.48	7.89	5.86	31.1.2001
Himachal Pradesh	67.11	40.86	12.57	5.14	2.89	Sept.2000
Jammu & Kashmir	99.45	40.86	18.02	7.35	4.96	19.2.1999
Karnataka	520.91	33.16	94.37	31.29	66.5	Sept.2000
Kerala	322.52	25.43	61.10	15.54	20.58	31.3.2000
Madhya Pradesh	797.47	42.52	141.15	60.01	43.65	March,2000
Maharashtra	911.15	36.86	177.27	65.34	77	2.3.2000
Manipur	25.18	40.86	40.07	1.66	1.29	Feb.1999
Meghalaya	24.34	40.86	4.49	1.83	1.72	15.1.2001
Mizoram	9.52	40.86	1.67	0.68	0.9	31.3.2000
Nagaland	15.84	40.86	3.02	1.24	0.96	1.12.1997
Orissa	358.57	48.56	67.91	32.98	42.85	Aug.2000
Punjab	235.36	11.77	39.76	4.68	4.9	1.4.2000
Rajasthan	535.59	27.41	88.67	24.31	23.82	6.12.2000
Sikkim	5.59	41.43	1.05	0.43	0.48	4.4.1997
Tamilnadu	617.74	35.03	138.82	48.53	65.51	31.8.2000
Tripura	37.82	40.86	7.22	2.95	2.31	1.4.1998
Uttar Pradesh	1701.88	40.85	273.61	111.77	95.48	1.7.1998
West Bengal	790.06	35.66	145.23	51.79	47.87	31.7.1997
A&N Islands	3.86	34.47	0.81	0.28	0.17	23.5.1997
Chandigarh	8.88	11.35	2.03	0.23	0.01	June 2000
D&N Haveli	1.90	50.84	0.36	0.18	0.16	Sept.2000
Daman & Diu	1.40	15.80	0.26	0.04	0.04	25.6.1997
Delhi	139.64	14.69	27.82	4.09	4.11	25.1.2001
Lakshadweep	0.71	25.04	0.11	0.03	TPDS not launched	
Pondicherry	11.11	37.40	2.24	0.84	0.9	31.8.2000
TOTAL	9950.44		1803.68	652.04	766.68	

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) of UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4087 FOR ANSWER IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.3.2001.

FUNDS ALLOTTED TO STATES UNDER RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES DURING 1999-2000 AND 2000-2001.

Sl. No.	Programme Name	Central Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)	
		1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)	182,410.01	126,200.00
2.	Indira Awaas Yojana (IAS)	159,999.00	161,369.00
3.	Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY)	165,500.00	164,549.98
4.	National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)	19,790.64	20,914.35
5.	National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS)	9,278.14	9,455.78
6.	National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS)	47,623.58	51,260.74
7	Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)	110,500.00	100,000.00
8.	Desert Development Programme (DDP)	4,922.48	2,282.82
9.	Draught Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)	8,944.23	2,813.00
10.	Integreted Wastelands Development Project(IWDP)	8,307.86	5,088.58

11. Land Reforms (LR)	4,248.56	3,848.97
12. Accelerated Rural Water Supply Project(ARWSP)	137,719.47	171,603.00
13. Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP)	10,865.10	3945.00
Total	870,109.07	823,331.22

ANNEXURE-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) of UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4087 FOR ANSWER IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.3.2001.

STATEMENT INDICATING NUMBER OF RATION CARDS ISSUED TO FAMILIES LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE (BPL) UNDER PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DURING THE YEARS 1998-1999, 1999-2000 AND 2000-2001.

S.No.	States	BPL RATION CARDS (in Lakhs)		
		1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113.02	113.25	113.80
2.	Arunachal Prd.	0.78	0.82	0.82
3.	Assam	18.72	18.81	18.82
4.	Bihar	84.26	84.26	84.26
5.	Delhi	NA	NA	NA
6.	Goa	0.07	0.07	0.08
7	Gujarat	33.74	33.85	33.89
8.	Haryana	5.62	5.64	5.86
9.	Himachal Prd.	2.84	2.86	2.86
10.	J & K	3.36	3.36	3.36
11.	Karnataka	62.55	64.74	62.67
12.	Kerala	20.60	20.58	20.47
13.	Madhya Prd.	42.68	43.65	43.65
14.	Maharashtra	57.99	58.29	58.11
15.	Manipur	1.13	0.67	0.67
16.	Meghalaya	0.97	0.97	0.97
17.	Mizoram	NA	NA	NA
18.	Nagaland	0.96	0.96	0.97
19.	Orissa	42.35	41.13	41.23
20.	Punjab	4.88	4.89	5.00
21.	Rajasthan	21.16	21.15	22.87
22.	Sikkim	NA	NA	NA
23.	Tamil Nadu	55.00	64.88	65.51
24.	Tripura	2.31	2.31	2.31
25.	Uttar Pradesh	95.48	95.48	95.48
26.	West Bengal	47.07	46.11	46.49
27.	A&N Islands	0.12	0.12	0.12
28.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	D&N Haveli	0.17	0.16	0.16
30.	Daman & Diu	0.02	0.02	0.02
31.	Lakshadweep+	NA	NA	NA
32.	Pondicherry	0.89	0.90	0.90
TOTAL		718.74	729.93	731.14

+ N.A.- Not Available